Groom's memoir gains national attention

English M.F.A. alum Kelle Groom is garnering critical acclaim with her newest book, *I Wore the Ocean in the Shape of a Girl: A Memoir*, from Free Press/Simon & Schuster, was recently selected by Oprah Winfrey for *O Magazine*'s 2011 summer reading list.

Lindgren awarded NSF Grant

A research project led by Robb Lindgren, Michael Mosheal, Charlie Hughes, Eileen Smith, and Shaun Gallagher has received a NSF Informal Science Education award in the amount of $1.4 million over 3 years. The proposal seeks to understand the effects of metaphor-based whole-body interactions in a mixed reality simulation of planetary astronomy. The project team will be building the simulation with state of the art motion tracking technology and testing the system with hundreds of Florida students and visitors to the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa. Several CAH grad and undergrad students are participating in the simulation's design and evaluation.

Intricate sets bring Theatre UCF to life

From UCF Today – When the University of Central Florida kicks off its theatre season next week, audiences will feel dramatic tension, hear actors exchange dialogue and see a large set take over the tiny stage of the Black Box theatre. But what audiences can't see is one of the most interesting parts of the production: before each show, UCF Theatre students work tirelessly behind-the-scenes.

“As a repertory production, there are two shows enwrapped,” said Associate Professor Bert Scott, who designed the sets for both shows. “The big challenge is there are several very large pieces to move in a short amount of time. It's like a game of Tetris.”

*Savage in Limbo*, a play about feisty young New Yorkers trying to find their ways, takes place in a bar. *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music*, about the wacky patrons of a country bar, starts in an asphalt parking lot, and the set changes to a rooftop for act two.

Shaped like a house, the main set was designed to break in half and transform into the background each play calls for. The set and scenery also hide props for whichever play is not being acted.

Of the largest props, *Savage in Limbo* calls for a pool table, and *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music* features a pick-up truck. Students are responsible for successfully hiding and safely moving the props, relying on wheeled risers for transport. Matt Pye (pictured), a junior Theatre Design student, is helping freshmen construct the set and teaching them how to move its elements.

“We do repertory to give students an idea of something that is done a lot in professional theatre,” Scott explained. “You have to think about not just what the stage looks like, but how things fit off the stage and how to make things mobile.”

*Savage in Limbo* and *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music* will be performed at the Black Box Theatre. Performances of *Savage in Limbo* will begin at 8 p.m. Sept. 22-24 and Oct. 5 and 7. There will be a 2 p.m. performance Oct. 9. *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music* will be performed at 8 p.m. Sept. 29 and 30, Oct. 1 and Oct. 6 and 8. There will be a 2 p.m. show on Oct. 2.

Tickets are $17 for adults, $15 for seniors and $10 for students. Subscriptions to Black Box productions are available. To learn more about Theatre UCF, visit theatre.ucf.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

History:
Ashley Wilt: “Entering ‘Nam”
CNH Room 401
Tuesday Nov. 8 at 3pm

Judaic Studies:
Marcia Zervitz: “250 Years of Jewish Life in Florida,” MAP Room 359
Tuesday Nov. 1 at 1:30pm

Music:
Guitar Night, Rehearsal Hall
Thursday Nov. 10 at 8pm

Kansas with the UCF Orchestra
The Venue at UCF Arena
Saturday Nov. 5 at 7:30pm

Philosophy:
Michael Strawser: “Phenomenology of Selfhood,” PSY Room 226
Friday Oct. 28 at 3:30pm

Theatre:
The Pajama Game
Theatre Main Stage
Thursday Oct. 27 - Sunday Oct. 30
Fall One Act Festival
Theatre Main Stage
Thursday Nov. 3 - Sunday Nov. 6

Find more highlights and events online at www.cah.ucf.edu

www.cah.ucf.edu
The Museum of Modern Art in New York City has purchased for its permanent collection a limited edition, hand-printed book by artist James Siena that was developed and published by Flying Horse Editions. The book has also recently entered the collections of Stanford University and the Johnson Art Museum at Cornell University.

Sequence I (2009), is a hand-printed, double-sided accordion book that stretches seventeen-feet long. The double-sided book follows a linear, geometric pattern as it coalesces and unwinds through thirty-six pages, black intertwining with red, and in reverse.

Flying Horse Editions is UCF’s fine art research facility and non-profit publisher of limited-edition prints, artist books, and art objects by internationally renowned artists. Flying Horse Editions offers artists the opportunity to work with its technicians to push the boundaries of their work while heightening the education of UCF students.

Two UCF English majors—Faith Dickens and Hillary Casavant—have taken top prizes in the annual Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA) essay contest.

Faith Dickens won first prize in the undergraduate division for her essay entitled “Whims of the Wealthy: Marriage and Desire for Sense and Sensibility’s Miss Grey.”

Hillary Casavant took second prize for the “Romance and Riches: The Necessity of Wealth in Sense and Sensibility.”

Dominique Gelin, an undergraduate minoring in both Women’s Studies and African American Studies, received the Florida Achievement Award presented by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women for her outstanding contributions and service to her community. She was also honored by the College Democrats of America with the 2011 Female College Democrat of the Year award.

Gelin is currently the president for Florida College Democrats and the Outreach Committee Chair for the Orange County Democratic Party. She was the College Democrat Women’s Caucus Chair for 2010-2011.